

Meeting Date: July 30, 2018

Page 1



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

DELTA CONSERVANCY

A California State Agency

1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6
West Sacramento, CA 95691
www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

July 30, 2018

~ PROGRAM UPDATE ~

STAFFING UPDATE

Please welcome Brenda Lusk, our new Staff Services Manager 1. Brenda came to us from the Administrative Services Bureau/Business Services Unit of the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training. She will be our lead for administration and contacts and we are very grateful to have her on board.

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

Delta Carbon Projects:

No significant change.

Regional Planning to Identify Effective Investments of Proposition 1 Funding

Cache Slough Regional Planning:

No significant change.

Central Delta Corridor Partnership (CDCP):

In early June the CDCP conducted a public workshop to inform stakeholders of the partnership and the process for developing a corridor strategy. The next step, the 1.5 day Design Charrette has been scheduled for August 8 and 9 at the Jean Harvey Community Center in Walnut Grove. Notices have been sent and can be found on the CDCP page on the Conservancy's website.

Suisun Marsh Improvements Assessment:

Landowner outreach has been conducted in Suisun Marsh and the majority of landowners have agreed to participate in the assessment of water infrastructure on their properties. The properties within Suisun Marsh were grouped into three geographic priority phases based on areas of the Marsh where water infrastructure improvements are most needed. Surveys to determine the exact locations, types, elevation, and other characteristics of water infrastructure features have been conducted on 100% of the Phase 1 area sites, 90% of the Phase 2 area sites, and 50% of the Phase 3 area sites. Data from these surveys are being incorporated into a hydrodynamic model that will identify the sites where water infrastructure improvements will yield the greatest ecological benefits.

Meeting Date: July 30, 2018

Page 2

Invasive Species Coordination, Control, and Restoration

Arundo Control and Restoration Project:

The Delta Conservancy's Arundo control and restoration activities include two ongoing efforts: 1) Arundo control and habitat restoration at Cache Slough Complex sites in collaboration with the Solano Resource Conservation District (SRCD) and Sonoma Ecology Center; and 2) facilitating releases of biological control agents on Arundo and follow-up monitoring, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Habitat restoration activities continued at Cache Slough Complex sites. SRCD continued to execute the understory establishment at the Emigh Livestock site and performed minor quality control tasks at the Petersen Ranch site. The Delta Conservancy and USDA-ARS identified two additional sites for biocontrol insect releases. One site is located at the Tracy Fish Collection Facility on U.S. Bureau of Reclamation property. The other new site is located on Rough and Ready Island adjacent to Burns Cutoff at the Port of Stockton.

WATERSHED PROGRAM

Assessment of User Needs for Development of Delta Science Tracker:

The Conservancy, in partnership with the Delta Science Program and Aquatic Science Center, will design, organize and facilitate two workshops to receive input from various groups on the structure of a Science Tracker. The Delta Science Plan calls for a standardized, transparent, and interoperable method for collecting and sharing information about science activities. The objective of the workshop is to understand priorities of agencies and stakeholders for compiling and displaying science and research data related to the Delta ecosystem. Under an Interagency Agreement with the Delta Stewardship Council, the Conservancy received \$50,000 to help organize and conduct the workshops. The Conservancy will work with partnering agencies and entities to ensure the workshops provide a forum to strategize with and collect feedback from a wide-range of user groups that are essential to the development of the Delta Science Tracker. The project duration is from August 2018 to March 2019.

International Coastal Cleanup Day 2018

The Delta Conservancy is beginning preparation for participating in International Coastal Cleanup Day in September 2018. This event is organized in partnership with the Delta Protection Commission.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Delta Mercury Exposure Reduction Program:

The Conservancy, in partnership with the Central Valley Water Board, Department of Public Health, and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, continues to work with community-based groups, local agencies, and others to implement the Delta Mercury Exposure Reduction Program (MERP). A Delta MERP Steering Committee Meeting was held on July 19, 2018. Staff presented an update on posting the fish consumption advisories, presented new outreach materials, and discussed the process of integrating Delta MERP educational messages into existing state and local programs.

Meeting Date: July 30, 2018

Page 3

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Delta Marketing:

The Draft Delta Awareness Sign Plan was released for a 30 day public comment period (the comment period was extended an additional week to May 18 per public request). The public comment period was complimented by two workshops to present the draft Sign Plan on April 12, 2018 at the Walnut Grove Library, and May 3, 2018 at the Big Break Center in Oakley. The final Delta Sign Plan was finalized and in June, and will be presented to the Board under Agenda Item 11.

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF – May 23, 2018

- 1) Board Member Ferrara suggested Staff consider that the regular updates for the Delta Stewardship Council, California WaterFix, EcoRestore and the Delta Protection Commission be included as written summaries in the Board meeting materials.
 - *Staff has not incorporated this request in the July Board meeting materials. The request represents a significant work effort for both the outside program managers and staff, and a timing issue to receive and process updates consistent with posting requirements. Verbal updates provide real time information that likely would supersede information provided up to two weeks prior for inclusion in the Board materials.*

DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET UPDATE

Agenda Item 5 (Attachment 2): Expenditure Report

OUTREACH – DELTA MEETING MATRIX

Agenda Item 5 (Attachment 3): Outreach-Delta Meeting Matrix

CORRESPONDENCE

None

Contact

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
Email: campbell.ingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
Phone: (916) 375-2089